

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 05919 062349Z

62

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00  
PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 /111 W  
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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1430

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS USUN 5919

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: SUMMARY OF 41ST MEETING,  
DECEMBER 3, 1976

1. SUMMARY: IN A LONG AND TUMULTUOUS 41ST MEETING OF THE  
FIFTH COMMITTEE DECEMBER 3, VOTING BEGAN ON THE QUESTIONS  
CONCERNING THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS. NEPAL DRAFT RESOLUTION  
LOWERING FLOOR IN FUTURE TO 0.01 PER CENT, AS AMENDED BY  
CANADA AND FRG, WAS ADOPTED, CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION GIVING SPECIAL  
RELIEF TO COUNTRIES WHOSE PRIMARY EXPORTS HAVE DROPPED IN PRICE  
WAS ADOPTED BY NARROW MARGIN, WITH MAJORITY OF DELEGATIONS  
ABSTAINING. ACTION ON OPEC DRAFT RESOLUTION AND ITS  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BECAME ENTANGLED IN PROCEDURAL AND  
LEGAL SNARLS AND EVENTUALLY WAS DEFERRED UNTIL DECEMBER  
6. END SUMMARY

2. AT BEGINNING OF MEETING CHAIRMAN MUNTASSER ANNOUNCED THAT  
PRIORITY IN VOTING WOULD BE GIVEN TO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF THE  
VARIOUS DELEGATIONS OVER THAT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS (CC).

3. CONSIDERATION THUS BEGAN OF THE AFGHANISTAN AND NEPAL  
DRAFT RESOLUTION TO LOWER THE FLOOR TO .01 PER CENT  
(A/C.5/31/L.7/REV 2), THE CANADIAN AMENDMENT FOR FURTHER CC STUDY  
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PAGE 02 USUN N 05919 062349Z

OF CRITERIA (A/C.5/31/L.26/REV1) AND FRG AMENDMENT

(A/C.5/31/L.29) TO INCREASE CC BY FIVE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS. AS "EXPLANATIONS" UNFOLDED, SOME DELEGATIONS TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON ALL THE ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS BEFORE THE FIFTH COMMITTEE. UK (STUART) SUPPORTED NEPALESE DRAFT AND ITS AMENDMENTS, OPPOSED CUBAN DRAFT AND OPEC DRAFT UNLESS AMENDMENTS TO LATTER WERE ACCEPTED. ITALY (FORCIGNANO) SUPPORTED NEPALESE DRAFT AND ITS AMENDMENTS AND COULD GO ALONG WITH INCREASE OF GIVE IN CC SIZE. ICELAND (JOHANNESSON) OPPOSED LOWERING FLOOR EXCEPT FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. SPAIN (PALACIOS) SUPPORTED OPEC DRAFT. USSR (KRUMIN) SAID IF OPEC DRAFT APPROVED IT WOULD CREATE A CRISIS ATMOSPHERE, AND IT WAS NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT SOME STATES WOULD IN SUCH CASE DETERMINE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BASIS OF CC-PROPOSED SCALE. USSR WOULD SUPPORT NEPALESE DRAFT IF AMENDED.

4. NIGERIA (ADENIJI) OBJECTED TO AMENDMENTS TO NEPALESE DRAFT SINCE THEY ALTERED ITS NON-CONTROVERSIAL CHARACTER; FAVORED CUBAN DRAFT DESPITE ITS NARROW APPROACH. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (THOMAS) FAVORED CANADIAN AMENDMENTS TO NEPALESE DRAFT, BUT WOULD ALSO VOTE FOR NEW CRITERIA IN OPEC DRAFT. KENYA (KITI) FAVORED CANADIAN AMENDMENTS AND THOUGHT USING DATA FOR PERIOD LONGER THAN THREE YEARS WOULD BLUNT TOO-SHARP INCREASES. UPPER VOLTA (OUEDRAOGO) SAID UN COULD THRIVE ONLY IF ALL MEMBERS WILLING TO SACRIFICE, HENCE WOULD ABSTAIN ON LOWERING OF FLOOR PROVISION IN NEPALESE DRAFT IF VOTED ON SEPARATELY. WOULD ABSTAIN ON CUBAN DRAFT SINCE IT UNCLEAR HOW ASSESSMENTS WOULD BE REDISTRIBUTED. IVORY COAST (OUATTARA) SUPPORTED NEPALESE DRAFT WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM SINCE MEMBER STATES MUST ACCEPT A CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITY. CRITICIZED CUBAN DRAFT BECAUSE OF ITS LIMITED APPLICATION. FOUND OPEC DRAFT UNACCEPTABLE SINCE IT WAS NOT RIGHT TO DO JUSTICE TO SOME BY DOING INJUSTICE TO OTHERS. IRAN (TALIEH), KUWAIT (AMB. BISHARA) AND IRAQ (EL-SHIBIB) SUPPORTED NEPALESE DRAFT BUT OPPOSED CANADIAN AMENDMENTS. INDONESIA (MARBAUNG) SUPPORTED OPEC DRAFT -- AS WELL AS CUBAN AND NEPALESE -- DESPITE INDONESIA'S LARGE DECREASE UNDER NEW SCALE.

5. VOTING ON CANADIAN AMENDMENTS TO NEPALESE DRAFT WAS BY ROLL CALL REQUESTED BY IRAQ. AMENDMENTS WERE ADOPTED 50 (US, MOST WEO'S, MOST EE'S, A FEW LDC'S) - 33 (OPEC, SOME LDC'S)  
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PAGE 03 USUN N 05919 062349Z

- 39 (MAINLY LDC'S).

6. FRG AMENDMENT TO NEPALESE DRAFT WAS THAN ADOPTED 50 - 33 - 36, WITH SIMILAR LINE-UP TO CANADIAN AMENDMENTS.

7. NEPALESE DRAFT AS AMENDED WAS THEN ADOPTED 74 (US, MOST WEO'S, EE'S, SOME LDC'S) - 0 - 47 (OPEC, SOME LDC'S).  
IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE VOTE, KENYA (KITI) STATED

THAT THE ADDITIONAL FIVE SEATS ON THE CC JUST VOTED  
SHOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY GO ONE TO EACH OF THE FIVE REGIONS.  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (PLASOK) FAVORED GEOGRAPHICAL SEATING.

8. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (THOMAS) SAID THAT IF CUBAN DRAFT WERE  
ADOPTED, IT WOULD BE CONTRADICTORY FOR COMMITTEE TO ADOPT  
CANADIAN AMENDMENT TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE OF OPEC DRAFT.  
LEGAL ADVISER SUY WAS QUERIED ABOUT THIS, BUT CHAIRMAN DECIDED  
TO ALLOW VOTE ON CUBAN DRAFT TO PROCEED. IT WAS ADOPTED 34  
(OPEC, EE'S, A FEW LDC'S) - 26 (US, MOT WEO'S, A FEW LDC'S) - 62  
(GREAT MAJORITY OF LDC'S).

9. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO THEN RENEWED ITS QUESTION ABOUT INCONSIS-  
TENCY OF CUBAN PROPOSAL AND CANADIAN AMENDMENT TO OPEC DRAFT.  
CANADA (LA POINTE) PROPOSED TO REVISE ITS AMENDMENT ORALLY  
TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CUBAN RESOLUTION. LEGAL ADVISER SAID THIS  
COULD NOT BE DONE SINCE VOTING ALREADY UNDERWAY BUT  
CANADIAN AMENDMENT IF ADOPTED WOULD BE CONSTRUED IN LIGHT OF  
CUBAN RESOLUTION. ALGERIA (BOUGYAD-AGHA) CONTENDED CANADIAN  
AMENDMENT WAS REALLY A RESOLUTION AND NOT AN AMENDMENT.  
LEGAL ADVISER RULED IT WAS A GENUINE AMENDMENT. FINALLY ALGERIA  
ASKED WHETHER OR NOT TWO-THIRDS VOTE WOULD NOW BE REQUIRED IN  
THE COMMITTEE TO ADOPT CANADIAN AMENDMENT SINCE  
IT WOULD IN EFFECT BE A RE-CONSIDERATION OF THE CUBAN RESOLUTION.  
LEGAL ADVISER SAID WEEKEND WAS NEEDED TO STUDY THIS PROBLEM,  
AND CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED COMMITTEE UNTIL MONDAY AFTERNOON  
DECEMBER 6. EARLIER EFFORTS BY UPPER VOLTA TO MOVE  
ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING HAD BEEN RULED OUT OF ORDER BY CHAIRMAN  
SINCE VOTE ALREADY UNDERWAY.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976USUNN05919  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760450-1079  
**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761268/aaaacgyh.tel  
**Line Count:** 145  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** wolfsd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: SUMMARY OF 41ST MEETING, DECEMBER 3, 1976  
**TAGS:** AORG, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006